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Commission on the Status of Women
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Item 3 (a) (i) of the provisional agenda*
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives: financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women

Statement submitted by International Network of Liberal Women, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/CN.6/2008/1.

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Statement

Women's participation in conflict prevention management, conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building

Considering all the previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the provisions that appear in the instruments of humanitarian law about the protection of the civil population.

Considering resolution 1325 of the Security Council of the 31st October 2000, related to women, peace and security.

Considering that for women, mutual understanding, peaceful co-existence and non-violence in resolving differences are deeply in their consciousness and are inviolable principles of human rights.

INLW notes:

That there exists serious worry regarding the persistence of armed conflicts in many regions of the world.

That all forms of violence in zones of armed conflicts, committed against the civil population affect particularly women and children, infringing seriously the humanitarian international law, especially the provisions of the Geneva Accords of 12 August 1949.

INLW proposes that:

Women, who are the main civilian victims of conflicts and wars, have to be empowered and made part of conflict management.

Women have to participate in diplomacy, conflict resolutions, post-conflict peace-building, conflict prevention, debates and activities in all public and civil institutions at all levels worldwide.

Women, who take part in conflict prevention, post-conflict resolution and in all forms of peace-building, have to be provided with mentoring programs and funding, so as to be able to perform the mentioned activities properly.

Administrations, institutions on national and international level, have to include peace-building budgets in their public finances.

Partnerships and networking between women's organizations is very important to strengthen women's presence in peace-building.

Women, taking part in conflict prevention, post-conflict peace-building, conflict resolution are to be provided with appropriate measures of security to prevent harassment or violence against them.

In the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as in the recommendations of other United Nations bodies, the women's NGOs have to be taken into account, including in ECOSOC and in the Commission on the Status of Women.